

[~117H6956]

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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To direct the Secretary of Education to carry out grant programs to encourage student participation in local government and volunteer service, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. KIM of New Jersey introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To direct the Secretary of Education to carry out grant programs to encourage student participation in local government and volunteer service, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Service Starts At  
5       Home Act”.

1   **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO SUPPORT INTERNSHIPS IN LOCAL GOV-**  
2                           **ERNMENT.**

3           (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the  
4   date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Education  
5   shall carry out a program under which the Secretary  
6   makes grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities  
7   to support paid internships within units of local govern-  
8   ment for secondary school students and students who are  
9   qualified undergraduates at institutions of higher edu-  
10   cation in the State in which the entity is located.

11          (b) APPLICATION.—To be considered for a grant  
12   under subsection (a), an eligible entity shall submit an ap-  
13   plication to the Secretary of Education at such time, in  
14   such manner, and containing such information as the Sec-  
15   retary may require.

16          (c) LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.—  
17   Each eligible entity that receives a grant under subsection  
18   (a) shall use such grant to carry out a program under  
19   which the entity—

20               (1) identifies appropriate paid internship oppor-  
21               tunities within units of local government for sec-  
22               ondary school students and students who are under-  
23               graduates at institutions of higher education in the  
24               State in which the entity is located;

25               (2) establishes a process for the selection of  
26               students to fill such internships;

(3) determines hourly rates of pay and other terms and conditions applicable to such internships;

(4) pays the costs incurred in providing such internships.

(d) ACCOMMODATIONS AND EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS.—In carrying out the internship program under subsection (c), an eligible entity shall—

(1) work with institutions of higher education to ensure that the work performed by interns has educational value and meets applicable educational standards; and

(2) seek to provide reasonable employment-related accommodations to interns who have childcare needs, transportation difficulties, or other such challenges, which may include accommodations such as flexible work schedules for interns and allowing interns to telework to the extent determined practicable by the eligibility entity concerned.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028.

22 SEC. 3. SCHOLARSHIP FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE PRO-  
23 GRAMS.

24 (a) FUNDING.—

25 (1) STATE PROGRAMS.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year  
2 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
3 retary of Education shall carry out a program  
4 under which the Secretary makes allocations to  
5 States, in accordance with subparagraph (B), to  
6 carry out the scholarship program under sub-  
7 section (b).

8 (B) ALLOCATIONS TO STATES.—Of the  
9 amount appropriated to carry out this section  
10 for each fiscal year and not reserved under  
11 paragraph (2), each State that has an applica-  
12 tion approved by the Secretary under subpara-  
13 graph (C) shall be allocated an amount in pro-  
14 portion to number of students enrolled in the  
15 public elementary and secondary schools in the  
16 State for the previous school year relative to the  
17 total number of students enrolled in the public  
18 elementary and secondary schools for such  
19 school year in every State that has an applica-  
20 tion approved by the Secretary under such sub-  
21 paragraph.

22 (C) STATE APPLICATION.—To be eligible  
23 to receive an allocation under subparagraph (B)  
24 a State shall submit an application to the Sec-  
25 retary of Education at such time, in such man-

1           ner, and containing such information as the  
2           Secretary may require.

3           (2) FEDERAL PROGRAM.—Of the amount ap-  
4           propriated to carry out this section for each fiscal,  
5           the Secretary of Education may reserve not more  
6           than 20 percent to carry out the Federal supple-  
7           mental scholarship program under subsection (c).

8           (b) STATE ADMINISTERED SCHOLARSHIP PRO-  
9           GRAM.—

10           (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State that receives an  
11           allocation under subsection (a)(2) shall use such al-  
12           location to carry out a program under which the  
13           State awards scholarships, on a competitive basis, to  
14           eligible students who demonstrate a commitment to  
15           volunteer service work.

16           (2) APPLICATION.—A student who seeks a  
17           scholarship under this subsection shall submit an ap-  
18           plication to the State at such time, in such manner,  
19           and containing such information as the State may  
20           require.

21           (3) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to  
22           receive a scholarship under this subsection a student  
23           shall meet the following criteria:

1 (A) FIRST-TIME APPLICANT.—In the case  
2 of a first-time applicant for a scholarship under  
3 this subsection, the student shall—

4 (i)(I) be enrolled in a secondary school  
5 and be in the final year of a program of  
6 study leading to a regular high school di-  
7 ploma; or

8 (II) be enrolled in an institution of  
9 higher education; and

10 (ii) have completed at least 100 hours  
11 of volunteer service work in the preceding  
12 school year (or another one-year period de-  
13 termined by the Secretary of Education).

14 (B) RENEWAL APPLICANT.—In the case of  
15 a student who received scholarship under this  
16 subsection for an academic year and who is  
17 seeking a scholarship for a subsequent academic  
18 year, the student shall—

19 (i) be enrolled in an institution of  
20 higher education;

21 (ii) be in good academic standing (as  
22 determined by the institution); and

23 (iii) have completed at least 100 hours  
24 of volunteer service work in the preceding

1 school year (or another one-year period de-  
2 termined by the Secretary of Education).

3 (4) RENEWAL PROCESS.—Subject to the avail-  
4 ability of funds for such purpose, a State that re-  
5 ceives an allocation under subsection (a) shall—

6 (A) award a scholarship to each renewal  
7 applicant who meets the requirements described  
8 in paragraph (3)(B); and

9 (B) establish a streamlined process under  
10 which renewal applicants can apply for such  
11 scholarships with minimal documentation re-  
12 quired.

13 (5) PRIORITY.—In awarding scholarships under  
14 this subsection, a State shall—

15 (A) in accordance with paragraph (4), first  
16 award scholarships to renewal applicants de-  
17 scribed in paragraph (3)(B); and

18 (B) from any funds remaining after award-  
19 ing such scholarships, award scholarships to  
20 first-time applicants described in paragraph  
21 (3)(A).

22 (6) USE OF FUNDS.—A scholarship received by  
23 a student under this subsection may be used by such  
24 student only to pay the student's costs of attendance  
25 at an institution of higher education.

1           (7) DURATION.—Each scholarship under this  
2 subsection shall be awarded for a period of one aca-  
3 demic year. A student may receive a scholarship  
4 under this subsection for a total period of not more  
5 than four academic years.

6           (8) AMOUNT.—The amount of each scholarship  
7 under this subsection shall be—

8           (A) \$1000, for a student who completed at  
9 least 100 hours, but less than 138 hours, of vol-  
10 unteer service work in the preceding school year  
11 (or another one-year period determined by the  
12 Secretary of Education);

13           (B) \$1500, for a student who completed at  
14 least 138 hours, but less than 175 hours, of vol-  
15 unteer service work in the preceding school year  
16 (or another one-year period determined by the  
17 Secretary of Education);

18           (C) \$2000, for a student who completed at  
19 least 175 hours, but less than 213 hours, of vol-  
20 unteer service work in such period;

21           (D) \$2500, for a student who completed at  
22 least 213 hours, but less than 250 hours, of vol-  
23 unteer service work in such period; and



1                   (E) \$3000, for a student who completed at  
2                   least 250 hours of volunteer service work in  
3                   such period.

4           (c) FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOLARSHIP PRO-  
5 GRAM.—

6           (1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts reserved  
7           under subsection (a)(2), the Secretary of Education  
8           may carry out a program under which the Secretary  
9           awards supplementary funds, on a competitive basis,  
10          directly to eligible students who have already re-  
11          ceived scholarships for volunteer service work.

12          (2) AMOUNT.—The amount of supplementary  
13          funds awarded to each student under paragraph (1)  
14          shall be determined by the Secretary of Education.

15          (3) PRIORITY.—In awarding scholarships under  
16          this subsection, the Secretary shall prioritize the  
17          award of funds to students who have not received a  
18          scholarship under subsection (b).

19          (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
20          are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
21          \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028.

22   **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

23          In this Act:

1           (1) The term “cost of attendance” has the  
2           meaning given that term in section 472 of the High-  
3           er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll).

4           (2) The term “eligible entity” means a State or  
5           a unit of local government.

6           (3) The terms “elementary school”, “regular  
7           high school diploma”, “secondary school”, and  
8           “State” have the meanings given those terms in sec-  
9           tion 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
10          cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

11          (4) The term “institution of higher education”  
12          has the meaning given that term in section 101 of  
13          the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
14          1001).

15          (5) The term “unit of local government”  
16          means—

17                (A) a county, municipality, town, township,  
18                village, parish, borough, or other unit of general  
19                government below the State level; or

20                (B) a governing body of an Indian tribe or  
21                tribal organization.

22          (6)(A) The term “volunteer service work”  
23          means unpaid acts of volunteer service conducted for  
24          or on behalf of a government or other nonprofit or-  
25          ganization, which may include a community-based

1 organization, faith-based organization, school, na-  
2 tional service program, civic or fraternal service or-  
3 ganization, local government agency, or other such  
4 organization.

5 (B) Such term does not include acts of proselyt-  
6 izing, conducting worship services, religious instruc-  
7 tion, political lobbying, court ordered service, or  
8 service conducted primarily for the benefit of the  
9 family of a student eligible for a scholarship under  
10 section 3.